

are mapped out. From early chapters on the Hidden Face of God and the Hidden Face of Self, Father van Zeller takes the student's enquiry into the problem of Asceticism and the Problem of Mysticism, slowly bringing the reader to the Triumph of the Holy Ghost in the Soul, where all realizations are crystallized in the knowledge, however inadequate, of man's final end, i.e., the adoration of the Blessed Trinity.

Dom van Zeller has dealt with the various aspects of the ascent to God in a thorough manner. In an early chapter he draws attention to the truth, that it is one of the paradoxes of human experience that those who have handed over their happiness to God, and who are prepared to be unhappy for the rest of their lives as victims bearing witness to his love, are in fact the happiest of all. He manifests the reality of life, to those who are prepared to accept the reality, through the word VICTIM, and later on he devotes a practical, if necessarily incomplete, chapter to sanctity and penance. Here he says 'since his sacrifice was voluntary, so should ours be. Once freely consenting to his purpose and his demand, we draw to our insignificant expressions of penance the force of his infinite merit: mystically we find our place in Christ's act of atonement.' It is a subject that could usefully be developed in the direction of individual souls.

The soul's 'Growth in the Holy Ghost' is beautifully prefaced by a chapter on the part played by the Holy Ghost, in which the reader is solemnly reminded that, while on earth, we can have no other vision of God than that which is according to our disposition in receiving it, and that, seeing our disposition is limited by our mortal nature, we are bound to be separated from him and from the city of our desire by an element to which we are naturally akin: but, as the Holy Spirit reveals himself to us, we come to see through this element.

This book will wisely be placed on the bookshelf of every person who is dedicated to God.

K. J. BARTLETT

THOUGHTS OF THE CURÉ D'ARS FOR EVERY DAY, compiled and arranged by W.M.B. (Burns Oates, Paternoster Series 14.)

This little book will be useful and inspiring for those who like to carry about with them during the day a thought to ponder and pray.

As everyone knows there is a penetrating simplicity and directness about the Curé d'Ars which sprang from his holiness and drew crowds to hear his spoken words. These written words, arranged in short extracts, are for each day of every month, will have a similar attraction for those who use them.